

Appln No. 10/748,811
Amdt date February 15, 2008
Reply to Office action of November 15, 2007

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

As a preliminary matter, Applicant notes that in the Office action dated November 15, 2007, the Examiner rejected claims "1-6, 7-9, 13-16, 19-23, 24-2" under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) or (a). As Applicant is unclear as to the last claim rejected under these sections, Applicant interprets this rejection to be of claims 1-9, 13-16 and 19-23. However, Applicant respectfully requests clarification of this rejection in the next communication from the Office.

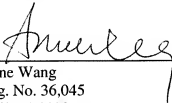
The Examiner rejected claims 1-9, 13-16 and 19-24 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) or (a) as allegedly anticipated by Haissaguerre, et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,068,629), and rejected claims 10-12, 17 and 18 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly obvious over Haissaguerre. However, Applicant has amended independent claims 1 and 7 to recite that the probe body is generally rigid to resist bending during use. Haissaguerre fails to teach or suggest such a feature. Rather, Haissaguerre discloses a steerable electrophysiology that is deflectable, and fails to teach or suggest a probe body that is generally rigid to resist bending during use. Accordingly, independent claims 1 and 7, and all claims dependent therefrom, including claims 2-6 and 8-27, are allowable over Haissaguerre.

Claims 1-27 remain pending in this application. By this amendment, Applicant has amended claims 1 and 7 to more clearly define the claim scope. Applicant has also amended claim 13 solely to correct a minor, inadvertent typographical error. The amendments find full support in the original specification, claims and drawings. No new matter is presented. In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant submits that all of pending claims 1-27 are in condition for allowance. Applicant therefore respectfully requests reconsideration and a timely

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indication of allowance. However, if there are any remaining issues that can be addressed by telephone, Applicant invites the Examiner to contact Applicant's counsel at the number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,
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